

KINDLY ENTER THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Column 1, prior to the "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION", please insert the following lines:

-- CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

01
This application is a continuation of reissue application Serial No. 09/442,082,
filed November 15, 1999. --

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-15 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

02
16. An exhalation permitting filter mask assembly for positioning over the mouth and nose of a user, the filter mask assembly comprising:

a mask configured to fit over the nose and mouth of a user and including filter material through which air can be inhaled by a user while effecting filtration of the inhaled air;